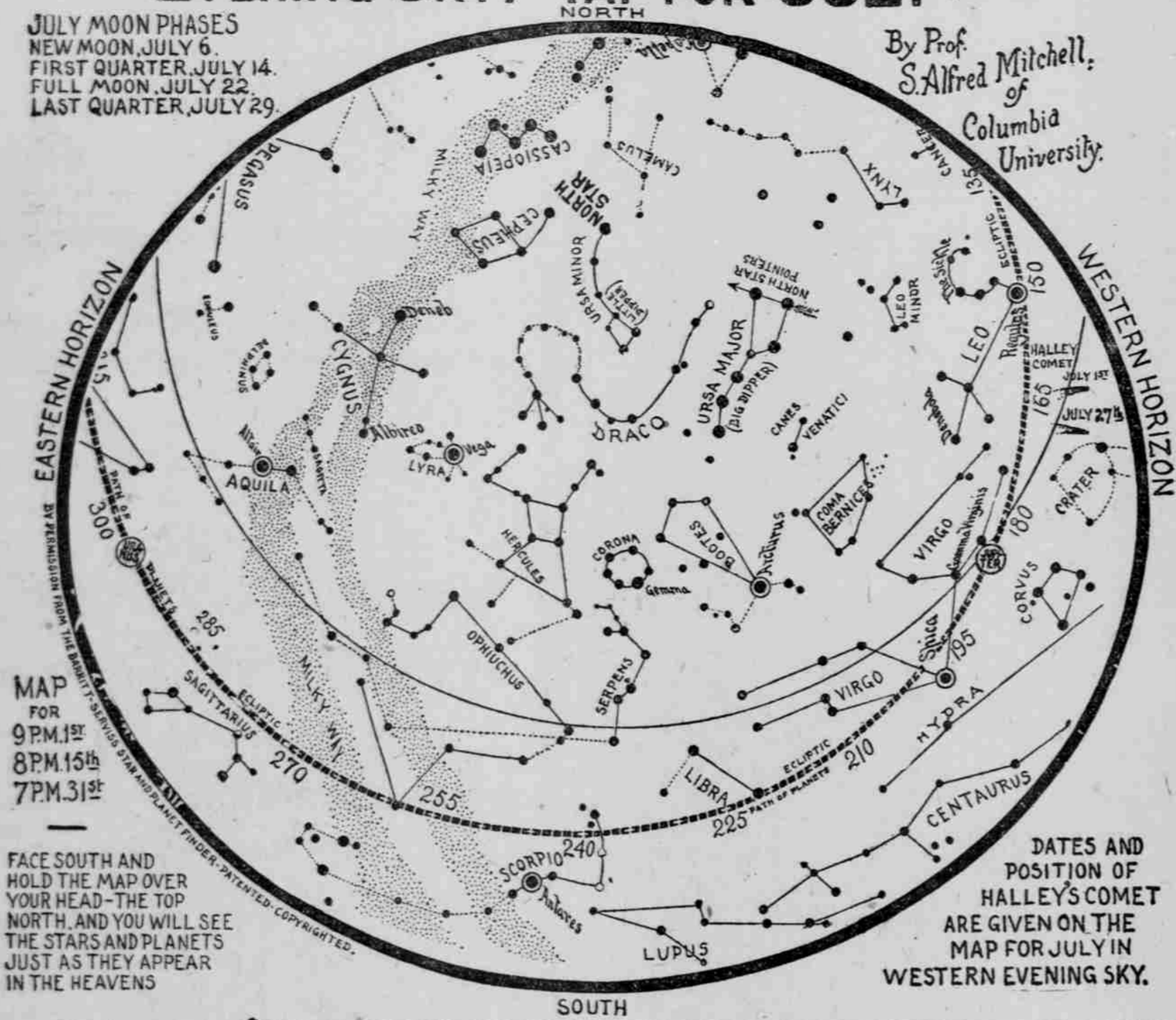


EVENING SKY MAP FOR JULY

JULY MOON PHASES
NEW MOON, JULY 6.
FIRST QUARTER, JULY 14.
FULL MOON, JULY 22.
LAST QUARTER, JULY 29.



By Prof. S. Alfred Mitchell.
Columbia University.

DATES AND POSITION OF HALLEY'S COMET ARE GIVEN ON THE MAP FOR JULY IN WESTERN EVENING SKY.

TO most people, Halley's comet was a big disappointment. The much advertised heavenly visitor had come and gone, no more to be seen to the naked eye for three-quarters of a century. When it was discovered last September, we read articles in newspapers and magazines of the wonderful accuracy of astronomical prediction, and the keen searching powers of the photographic plate. As the comet got brighter, we learned its history, with all the details of Halley's interesting calculations there, on back to the year 240 B. C., and up to the present with fact and theory interwoven. So much was written by such a variety of persons, that the general public expected a wonderful object with a head almost as big as the moon, and a brilliant tail streaming far across the sky. Those who had never before seen a comet looked for such a sight—but it was not to be.

Those who had looked carefully into the subject did not expect as fine a comet as that of 1882, which was less bright than the comets of 1861 and 1885. To the trained astronomer who had watched the comet grow from a tiny hazy star visible only in the greatest telescope to the fine spectacle we saw in the morning and evening skies, the comet was a remarkable object. But even he was a little disappointed, for the tail, though long, was always faint, and allowed itself to be photographed only with difficulty.

The comet's brilliancy.

In the June issue was given Dr. Ebbell's estimate of the brightness of the comet, but the comet has fallen far short of what, judging from the 1835 appearance, it should have been. In short, it was a disappointment to the public and astronomer alike. The astronomer had hoped to test many interesting theories, but Halley's comet probably left more puzzles than it cleared away.

In order to give our readers the most direct information possible, the present

writer went to the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago at Williams Bay, Wis., reaching there on the important day of May 18. At the observatory (where this is being penned), the excitement on that day was increased by the presence of nine newspaper reporters, who were ready to chronicle anything of interest that might happen as we passed through the comet's tail. On the morning of the 18th Professor Barnard and the observers at Yerkes had witnessed one of the first views of the comet obtained, a broad band of light five degrees in width, passing through the square of Pegasus, sloping upward as it passed south till it vanished in the stars of the Milky Way 107 degrees from its starting place.

Through the Tail.

The night of May 18 was a most interesting one. What would be observed as we passed through the tail of the comet? And would the comet be seen on the face of the sun? According to cometary theory, the particles composing the tail were too minute to form meteorites, but they carried charges of electricity, a faint aurora might be seen. Unfortunately, the moon was bright and did not set till after 2, and the dawn came on shortly after 3 o'clock, so that little opportunity was had to view the phenomenon on a dark sky. At 9:30 p. m. a brilliant aurora was seen. This probably had nothing to do with the comet, but was connected with a fine group of spots on the sun that Professor Slocum had photographed with a 40-inch telescope earlier in the day.

As the night wore on, no noticeable effects of the tail of the comet were seen. However, as the moon got lower and lower toward the western horizon a faint misty-like cloud in the east took on more and more definite shape; and this proved to be the comet's tail almost in the same position where it had been 24 hours previously. The astronomers were puzzled. The comet should have passed the sun before midnight, and if the tail were straight, it should have been seen in the west instead of the east.

The Observations.

The observers in Honolulu, Manila, and Australia, in the Pacific were favored with clear weather, and closely watched the sun to try and see the comet during its transit. Absolutely nothing was seen. The enigma of comets was heightened rather than decreased, the head of the comet was too tenuous. We knew the tail to be filmy, but we thought that the "rocks" or "meteoric stones" forming the head would gather together into agglomerations big enough to be seen projected on the sun. What is a comet anyway? Halley's comet has been visiting us we know for more than 2000 years, the head has been continuously losing matter to form the tail which at this time was at least 25,000,000 miles in length. And yet there is not enough material in the head for us to have seen any trace of it.

The night of May 19 was cloudy at Yerkes. At other places, the head of

the comet was seen shortly after sunset in the west exactly at its predicted place. Towards morning faint streaks of light in the east showed the tail still on the opposite side of the earth from where the head had been seen. The astronomers had been unable to explain the tail in the east on the morning of the 19th, but on this morning, the 20th—it was hard to understand how it could be, but there it was nevertheless. To use an illustration of Professor Frost, the comet is like a comma, the tail more or less curved. In the morning skies, we had been approaching the comet approximately in the place of its path about the sun and the curvature had not been apparent to us. But the curvature was there none the less, and it was not at all surprising to see the tail in the east on the morning of the 19th. We were moving through space relative to the particles forming the tail at the rate of 45 miles per second. Twenty-four hours at this speed means a distance of over three and a half million miles—but there was the tail of the comet in the east on the morning of the 20th. There are several ways of explaining how this is possible, but none are quite adequate, and we will have to rest till more complete observations are at hand.

Good Views.

Most of us had many fine views of the comet in the evening skies before the twelfth of June, when the moon put an end to all naked eye observations. People who lived in the country away from the dust and smoke of the city and the glare of electric lights, had a much better chance to see the tail. It was so faint that the feeble extensions were lost to the city observer. There were quite marked changes in the comet's appearance from night to night. On the evening of June 6, Professor Barnard obtained an exquisite photograph with his ten-inch Bruce camera. This showed practically the only real activity in the tail during its photographic history. A large portion of matter is there seen ejected from the head. The effect of this outburst was seen the next evening for the comet was very much fainter.

The spectroscopic work on the comet gained little of interest. During the evening appearance, the cyanogen band in the violet part of the spectrum remained relatively strong in the head of the comet, but it was absent from the tail. As the ordinary photographic plate is most sensitive to violet light, this deficiency in the light of Halley's comet showed itself in the difficulty of obtaining strong photographs. In this respect it differed much from the Morehouse comet of 1908. This comet of two years ago, became at best just visible to the naked eye, but its tail showed remarkable changes in appearance from night to night. In fact this comet looked like one in the full vigor of youth, while Halley's comet, with its two thousand year history, appeared as in the midst of decrepitude and age.

For possessors of telescopes, the position of the comet is given:

Date	Right Ascension	Declination	Comet sets	Rise
July 1	3 10h 49m 24s	-2 58 9.58 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	3 10h 52m 41s
July 2	3 10h 52m 41s	-3 18 9.45 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	3 10h 55m 58s
July 3	3 10h 55m 58s	-3 38 9.19 p.m.	7:28 p.m.	3 11h 1m 51s
July 4	3 11h 1m 51s	-3 58 8.1 p.m.	7:24 p.m.	3 11h 7m 39s
July 5	3 11h 7m 39s	-4 59 8.31 p.m.	7:16 p.m.	

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up. By sweeping in Sagittarius with the help of the map it may be found.

MAYOR OF JUAREZ WORKS FOR LIBRARY

Plans Arrive—Sewer Extension Granted—Park Improved.

Jefe politico Porfiri, of Juarez, has received plans for the new library, the first to be projected in the Mexican city. The building will be of brick and of strictly Gothic design. The cost, approximately \$8000, will be paid by a series of entertainments under the auspices of the Spanish colony.

Work of installing the first sewerage system in Juarez is underway, but a lack of material caused some delay. By fall both the sewerage and the street paving will be completed. The city council has granted an extension of the sewerage encompassing lower Juarez avenue in response to requests of property owners of that locality.

Gardening at the new Juarez park was begun Wednesday, and will be pushed to completion through the summer. Workmen now are erecting a foundation for the new band stand in the old plaza in front of the mission.

FOUR FALSE ALARMS FOR FIREMEN IN AS MANY DAYS

Four false alarms of fire have been turned in within the past four days, two from boxes and two by telephone.

The latest unnecessary run was given the department at 3:50 Tuesday afternoon, when a telephone call summoned the Mesa companies to Boulevard and Ochoa streets. Nobody knew anything about a blaze in the neighborhood.

The telephone call, according to the record of the telephone operator, came from the Gibson offices in the Herald building, No. 492. No one knew about it at the office, however. This is the second alarm from the same phone, the chief says.

The detectives are of the opinion that Guy Desmond and Charlie Hoke, the youths now in jail on a charge of burglary, may know something about the premises pulling of boxes. The boys will be questioned along these lines later.

Antiprize Fight.

Atlanta, Ga., June 29.—A bill intended to knock out the prize fighting and glove contests of any kind was introduced in the upper branch of the Georgia general assembly Tuesday.

IMMIGRATION WORK OF ENTIRE MEXICAN BORDER TO BE DIRECTED FROM HERE

Beginning July 1, Frank W. Berkshire, stationed at El Paso as supervising immigration inspector of district No. 23, will be in charge of a new district. For the first time the border district will include every portion of the Mexican line from the gulf to the coast.

At present district No. 23 comprises the border from Brownsville to Yuma, all chief inspectors reporting to the local office. With the addition of district No. 19, the El Paso official will receive reports from all offices between Brownsville and San Luis Obispo on the border and from the two sea ports of Los Angeles and San Diego. The southern California district will be patched onto the border district forming in all a chain of four land stations, and two sea ports.

This word from the department of commerce and labor received by Mr. Berkshire means that the Mexican border will be unified as the Canadian border has been for many years. It will leave but two land districts, as all other points of entry are at sea ports.

TWO FORMER EMPLOYEES SUE CEMENT COMPANY

Suit was filed in the federal court Tuesday afternoon by Clarkson W. Collins, a machinist, against the Southwestern Portland Cement company, asking for damages for personal injuries in the sum of \$25,000. The plaintiff alleges that while in the employ of the defendant company he suffered injuries to his right eye which has impaired his sight.

Bernard Horstman has also filed suit against the Southwestern Portland Cement company for damages in the sum of \$31,000 for personal injuries. The petition states that the complainant fell from a 26-foot scaffold and suffered a broken ankle on the left foot, charging that the scaffold was defective.

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